

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03129 051609Z

72

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SSO-00 /021 W

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R 051405Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0078

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3129

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, IN

SUBJECT: HARCOS/FLETCHER

REF: CALCUTTA 423 (NOT REPEATED TO THE DEPARTMENT)

WHEN CONSUL GENERAL PICKERING CALLED ON WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER RAY MARCH 1, HE REMINDED RAY THAT THEY HAD DISCUSSED THE HARCOS/FLETCHER CASE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. PICKERING HAD SUBSEQUENTLY TALKED WITH THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND OTHERS ABOUT IT ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS, BUT STILL THERE HAD BEEN NEITHER CHARGES BROUGHT NOR BAIL SET IN THE CASE. RAY ADMITTED THERE HAD BEEN "DELAYS" ON THEIR SIDE BUT, AS THE CHIEF SECRETARY HAD DONE EARLIER, HE STRESSED THE "VERY PUZZLING NATURE" OF THE CASE AND THE ABSENCE OF ANY SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION BY THE MEN AS TO WHAT THEY HAD IN FACT BEEN UP TO. PICKERING SAID WE WERE NOT RAISING THE MERITS OF THE CASE BUT SIMPLY STRESSING OUR BELIEF THAT THE JUDICIAL PROCESS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE. HE NOTED CONTINUING AND INCREASING CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS ASPECT OF THE CASE. RAY SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT ANEW BUT WAS NONCOMMITTAL AS TO WHAT, IF ANYTHING, HE WOULD SPECIFICALLY DO BEYOND THAT.

MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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